

Energy and the Environment

Environment

Zoe Convenes Conference on Green Tech (April 2008)

E-Newsletter on Renewable Energy Development (March 2008)

Zoe Votes to Pass The Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008 (Feb 2008)

Zoe Votes to Pass Energy Independence and Security Act (Dec 2007)

We all have a responsibility to be good stewards of our environment. Ensuring that we have clean water to drink, clean air to breathe and protecting our planet from the harmful impacts of global warming is our responsibility. There are many challenges we must address to ensure that we have a clean and healthy environment to enjoy, one capable of nurturing not only ourselves and our families but the wildlife and natural resources found within.

Zoe has a long record of protecting the environment and she will continue to monitor efforts by the Bush administration to weaken environmental protections. Our environment and we deserve nothing less.

Work on Ocean Caucus: One area that Zoe has particular interest in is our Oceans. Our oceans are continually threatened by pollution, habitat destruction and the impact of overfishing. We must commit to preserving and restoring the vast diversity of ocean life and to protect the quality of our coastal waters. Zoe does not support offshore drilling in coastal waters.

Zoe is a member of the House Ocean Caucus, a group of Representatives who are committed to protecting our Oceans. The Caucus is led by her California colleague, Representative Sam Farr. For additional information about ocean issues and the Ocean Caucus, please visit Representative Farr's website page on <http://www.lofgren.house.gov>

oceans.

Energy

Working to Address High Gas and Energy Prices (August 2008)

E-Newsletter on Promoting Responsible Domestic Energy Production (July 2008)

E-Newsletter on Renewable Energy Development (March 2008)

Zoe Votes to Pass The Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation Tax Act of 2008 (Feb 2008)

Zoe Votes to Pass Energy Independence and Security Act (Dec 2007)

Many Silicon Valley families and businesses are reeling from record oil prices. For far too long, big energy companies have dictated our nation's energy policy and Americans are now literally paying the price for it.

As our current energy situation highlights, we, as a country, are too dependent on oil. Our reliance on foreign oil poses a threat to our economy, our environment and our national security. Since 2001, America's dependence on foreign oil has increased from 56% to 65% and gas prices have more than doubled. Now more than ever, America needs to go in a new direction by supporting alternative energy sources and energy efficiency.

During my tenure in Congress, I have supported efforts to reduce dependence on foreign oil with responsible energy independence proposals. I have supported the development of renewable and

sustainable energy sources, such as biofuels, fusion, solar and wind power. We must move away from the failed policies of the past -- the expansion of offshore drilling and drilling in environmentally sensitive lands. Instead, we must focus on new and innovative approaches. With this in mind, Silicon Valley will continue to play a key role in producing the new technologies that are needed to help move our country forward.

In the meantime, we must bring real relief to those feeling the squeeze from high gas and diesel prices and ensure the needs of families and businesses are put before the interests of oil companies. This requires both short and long term approaches, but together they will give the American people a more affordable, energy efficient, cleaner, greener future.

The New Direction Congress has enacted into law:

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Strategic Petroleum Reserve Fill Suspension and Consumer Protection Act Temporarily suspends the filling of the SPR, starting June 30th, to put more oil on the market, which experts agree will help drive down gasoline prices. Signed into law on May 19, 2008.

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Energy Independence and Security Act

- Historic energy legislation with provisions to combat oil market manipulation, increase vehicle fuel efficiency to 35 miles per gallon in 2020 - the first Congressional increase in more than three decades- and promote the use of more affordable American biofuels. Signed into law on December 19, 2007.

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Food, Conservation, and Energy Act -

The new Farm Bill makes a historic commitment to more affordable homegrown American biofuels and increases Commodity Futures Trading Commission oversight authority to detect and prevent manipulation of energy prices. President Bush vetoed this bill, but the Congress has overridden that veto.

Legislation that the House has passed includes:

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Renewable Energy and Job Creation Act

- Legislation to extend and expand tax incentives for renewable energy, including incentives for plug-in vehicles, retain and create hundreds of thousands of green jobs, spur American innovation and business investment, and cut taxes for millions of Americans. The President has threatened a veto.

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The Gas Price Relief for Consumers Act

- Legislation to combat record gas prices by authorizing lawsuits against oil cartel members for oil price fixing, and creating an Antitrust Task Force to crack down on oil companies engaged in anticompetitive behavior or market manipulation. President Bush has threatened to veto this bill.

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Energy Price Gouging Prevention Act - This

bill will provide short term relief to consumers by giving the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) the authority to investigate and punish those who artificially inflate the price of energy. President Bush has threatened to veto this bill.